THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello*

No. 6360. *FRIDAY, May* 13, 1842. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

SPONTINI's Opera *Die Vestalin* was performed for the first time here last night; the house was thinly attended. The following is a sketch of the plot:—Julia, a young Vestal, (Madame Schodel,) is in love with Licinius (Herr Eichberger,) a Roman General, who obtains the assistance of his friend and brother-soldier Cinna to carry her off from the atrium, or dwelling of the vestals; Licinius has just returned triumphant from the field of battle, and proceeds in triumph to the atrium to receive the wreath of victory; the presentation of which falls to the lot of Julia, she being the youngest of the Vestals. During the performance of the ceremony, he bids her hold herself in readiness for flight. The second act opens with a Vesper Hymn, after which the High Priestess confides the vestal flame to the care of Julia; Licinius makes his appearance, and is about to fly with Julia, when the fire on the altar becomes extinguished; the voices of the populace are heard without; Licinius escapes without being detected; but Pontifex Maximus, aware that some man has entered the precincts of the atrium, Julia is condemned, and sentenced to be buried alive, which sentence is about to be executed, when Licinius arrives with a body guard, and confesses himself to have been the guilty one who broke into the temple, and offers his own blood in expiation; Julia descends into the grave, declaring that she knows not the Roman; Licinius follows her; Pontifex Maximus calls upon the Romans to defend the altar; a fight ensues between the lictors and the soldiers, when a flash of lightning burns the vestal veil of Julia, which is laid upon the altar, and the flame is rekindled. This is pronounced by Pontifex a "heavenly miracle," and he calls upon the people to witness the union of Julia and the Defender of Rome. Madame Schodel's acting and singing were of the first order, and elicited great applause, The Opera is well got up, and the music is first-rate.

Mayerbeer's celebrated Opera of *Robert the Devil* is in rehearsal at this Theatre, and will be produced on Friday next.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

The Two Gentlemen of Verona, a Concert of Vocal and Instrumental Music, and *No Song, No Supper*, were the entertainments at this Theatre, last night, being for the Benefit of Mr. H. Phillips.—The house was crowded. On Thursday next, Mr. and Mrs. Keeley will take their Benefit, when a new Farce will be produced for the first time, entitled *An Attic Story*, preceded by the Comedy of *The Provoked Husband.*

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

The Love Chase, A Lover by Proxy, and *The Pretty Girls of Stilberg*, were the performances here yeterday evening. On Monday,

E. & J. THOMAS, Printers, Russell Court, Brydges-st., Covent Garden.

May 23, Mr. Charles Kean will take his Benefit, when a Shaksperian Play will be revived.

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

We are sorry to say that Mr. Oxberry, the lessee of this Theatre, will not be able to continue his professional exertions for some time, in consequence of the sudden death of his wife. The premature birth of a daughter yesterday morning was the cause of this severe domestic calamity.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer,

Dear Mr. Editor, I address you from the elegant Cigar Divan and Lounge, 366, Strand, (corner of Burleigh Street,) having just popt in to luxuriate on a capital cup of Coffee, and a true Havannah, skim the Newspapers, and play a game at Billiards—delightful place—no charge for admission—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, visit The Diorama, Regent's Park.—The Two Pictures now Exhibiting represent *The Village of Algana, in Piedmont*, destroyed by an Avalanche, painted by M. Bouton ; and *The Shrine of the Nativity at Bethlehem*, painted by M. Renoux, from a Sketch made on the spot by D. Roberts, R.A. in 1839. Both Pictures exhibit various effects of light and shade. They are truly beautiful, and will well repay a visit to this fashionable lounge. Open from Ten till Five

Tuesday, paid another visit to the Thames Tunnel as it will be shortly closed to the public, in order to make the necessary preparations for opening it as a thoroughfare for foot passengers. It is open daily, (Sunday excepted) from 9 in the morning until dark, and lighted with gas. The Tunnel is now completed, and is 1,200 feet in length, and the present entrance is on the Surrey side of the river, close to Rotherhithe Church.

Afterwards, I am to be found admiring the beautiful collection of Paintings at the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, East, which is now open for the season—crowded with fashionables—Admission 1s. Intend to join the Conversazione, subscription 1*l.* 1*s.*

You may talk of eye snuff, but after having the head-ache for a year, popped into Perring's, 85, Strand. got one of his superb Beavers, so light lost the head-ache in a minute—was shewn one of his elegant Velvet Hats, could not resist buying one of them also, price 13s —wonderful.

Thursday, call upon Messrs. Cocks & Co, Music-sellers to her Majesty, 20, Princes-street, Hanover Square, for *The Royal State Ball Waltzes*, for piano 3s. each, ditto duets 4s each, and orchestra 9s. each, by Strauss, Deutsche, Lust, and Apollo-Walzer; Lanner's Victoria, Liebes Traume, and Die Sonderlinge ; Labitzky's Prince Albert, Jubel Klange, New Aurora, and Die Fashionablen ; also just published, Musard's Quadrilles, Giselle, La Fille du Regiment. Les Soirees du Ranelagh, and L'Echarpe Rose, each 3s. ; also Rose d'Angleterre, 72 elegant Waltzes for the piano by the above authors, 6 books, each 3s. Catalogues to be had *gratis.*

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at Evans's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,– quite delighted with the excellence of the singing—commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Afterwards called at Emmett's, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker, by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute ! also his improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

" All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street,—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Hearing of Wilson's famous New Footed Boots, called at his *depôt* for New, Misfitted, and Second-hand Boots and Shoes, 95, & 97, Holborn Hill, [opposite St. Andrew's Church,] found them of the most superior description both in fashion, make, and material, prices from 10s. 6d. to 16s.—also inspected his very best boots, which he makes to measure at 25s.—these cannot be surpassed. There is a distinct department for Ladies and Children at 97, which is very convenient.—Mrs. P. intends going.

Saturday, I examine Miss Linwood's curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—lately added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Play of The

Merchant of Venice

The Duke of Venice, Mr G. BENNETT,
Antonio, Mr PHELPS, Bassanio, Mr ANDERSON,
Lorenzo, Mr ELTON, Gratiano, Mr HUDSON,
Salarino, Mr MARSTON, Salanio, Mr SELBY,
Shylock, (a Jew) Mr MACREADY,
Salerio, Mr LYNNE, Tubal, Mr WALDRON,
Lancelot Gobbo, Mr COMPTON,
Old Gobbo ..... Mr W. BENNETT,
Clerk of the Court, Mr Bender,
Stephano & Balthazar, Messrs. Yarnold & J.F. Smith,
Leonardo, Mr Carle, Servant to Antonio, Mr Harcourt,
Portia, Mrs WARNER,
Nerissa .... Mrs KEELEY,
Principal Minstrels of Portia, Miss POOLE, Miss GOULD, and Mr S. JONES,
Jessica.....Miss E. PHILLIPS,

After which, Sheridan's Opera of The

DUENNA.

Don Jerome, Mr W. BENNETT,
Antonio .... Mr J. REEVES,
Don Ferdinand, Mr ALLEN,
Don Carlos ..... Miss P. HORTON,
Isaac Mendoza, Mr KEELEY,
Father Paul ..... Mr H. PHILLIPS,
Father Francis, Mr MELLON,
Father Augustine..... ..Mr S. JONES,
Lopez, Mr CHAPMAN,
Lorenzo . Mr CARLE, Lewis.. Mr HOWELL,
Lay Brother, Mr MORRIS BARNETT,
Donna Louisa .... Miss POOLE,
Donna Clara, Miss ROMER,
The Duenna ..... Mrs C. JONES,
Louisa's Maid, Miss GOWARD,
Clara's Maid .....Miss FLOYD.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

German Opera.

This Evening, Mozart's Opera of

DON JUAN.

Don Pedro, (the Commandant) Herr BRUCKER,
Don Juan, Herr MELLINGER,
Don Ottavio ..... Herr ABRESCH,
Leporello, (Valet to Don Juan) Herr STAUDIGL,
Masetto, Herr SCHWEMMER,
Donna Anna..... Madame SCHODEL,
Donna Elvira, Madame S. HEINEFETTER,
Zerlina ..... Fraulein GNED,
Nobles, &c , by

THE CHORUS

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF HERR ROECKEL,

Herr LACHNER,

(Musical Director in Ordinary to theGrand Duke of Baden) will preside over the

ORCHESTRA

Which will be composed, on a very Extensive Scale, of eminent German Musicians.

Conductor, Herr GANZ.

☞ *Prices of Admission :—*

Dress Boxes, 7s. First and Second Circles, 5s. Pit 3s. 6d.
Gallery 2s.

On Monday, The Zauberflote,

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